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A THREAT

Physicians met in Chicago last week to seek ways to combat what they say are health problems reaching "epidemic proportions" among children, and they asserted that schools are both part of the problem and part of the solution.

See Page 10.

A HURDLE

Coaches and athletes in West Virginia are already beginning to feel the pressure of a new statewide policy to take effect in January 1984 that will require students to maintain a C average in order to participate in extracurricular activities.

See Page 6.

A WARNING

Noting a strong correlation between property wealth and educational quality, a commission in Kentucky says the state may be sued if it does not act to correct disparities between school districts and has recommended changes in tax policy.

See Page 6.

EDUCATION WEEK

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House Increases Spending Limits For Education

Vote Sets the Stage For Budget Increase

By Tom Mirga

WASHINGTON—The House Appropriations Committee, in a move that surprised and upset many education officials, last week approved a $12.24-billion spending bill for most of the Education Department's activities for the upcoming fiscal year.

According to committee aides, the spending panel has yet to appropriate funds for impact aid and rehabilitation services for the handicapped because the Congress has not authorized those expenditures yet. In fiscal 1983, those programs received a total of $1.58 billion.

The committee's bill also did not appropriate funds for the yet-unauthorized mathematics-and-science initiative that is widely expected to be approved by Congress in the next few weeks.

The House version of that bill would cost the government $400 million in the next fiscal year.

If the committee decides to keep the impact-aid and rehabilitation programs funded at the same level as they are now and to fully fund the math-and-science program in fiscal 1984, which begins on Oct. 1, total education spending would be set at approximately $14.2 billion.

That amount would represent a $1.1-billion decrease from the department's fiscal 1983 appropriation of $15.3 billion. It would also fall $1.9 billion below the $16.1-billion spending mark for education set by the Congress when it approved its first concurrent budget resolution in June.

The Senate Appropriations subcommittee that oversees education was scheduled to mark up its version of the fiscal 1984 education spending bill late last week. Congressional aides and lobbyists predicted the Senate panel's recommended spending figures would closely match those set by the House committee.

The spending figures approved by the House Appropriations committee were almost identical to those recommended by its Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education last July.

Education lobbyists said they were surprised by the House committee's decision because two days earlier the full House rejected key portions of a 1981 budget act and opened the way for up to $1 billion in addi-

Continued on Page 13

Carnegie Report Offers High-School Reform Plan

Calls for New 'Core Curriculum,' Student Service

By Thomas Toch

WASHINGTON—Asserting that "it is in the public school . . . that the battle for the future of America will be won or lost," the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has concluded a three-year analysis of public secondary education with a series of detailed proposals for reforming and revitalizing the nation's high schools.

Excerpts from the report begin on page 16.

In a 355-page study written by Ernest L. Boyer, Carnegie's president, the foundation recommends that prospective teachers major in an academic subject rather than in education, that a new "core curriculum" replace the practice of "tracking" students according to academic ability, and that the use of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (S.A.T.) be abandoned in favor of a "more effective assessment and guidance program" that would offer a "more realistic portrait" of what students have learned in high school.

The foundation also urges that large, comprehensive high schools reorganize themselves into smaller units through the creation of "schools-within-schools," in order to "establish a more cohesive, more supportive social setting for all students."

Continued on Page 15

Ernest L. Boyer

Science Panel's Work Elicits Praise but Uncertainty on Costs

By Susan Walton

WASHINGTON—Education leaders and policymakers are praising the science-education report issued last week by the National Science Board for its "clearly defined" and "substantive" recommendations.

But there was some evidence last week—in the terse statement by a White House official and in the suggestion by one official that the report's multi-billion-dollar recommendations took the Education Department by surprise—that the executive branch was not quite prepared to offer similar praise.

Budget Considerations

Most observers agreed that it is too early to judge whether the recommendations will make their way into either the Reagan Administration's or the Congress's budget considerations for upcoming fiscal years, or whether the $6.5-billion, 12-year program could get off the ground during an era of tight budgets. *(See Education Week, Sept. 14, 1983.)*

At its Sept. 15 meeting, the National Science Board voted to accept the report. Such a vote, however, does not imply that the report is now the foundation's official policy.

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell was preparing a response to the report, but as of Sept. 15, the statement had not yet been released.

As of late last week, George Keyworth, President Reagan's science adviser, was the only White House official to comment on the report. "By adding to the consensus that serious problems exist, this N.S.B. commission's report can be a useful reminder to the nation that we have much to do before this problem turns around," Mr. Keyworth said in a statement.

"The Administration is receptive to recommendations for improving science and mathematics education, and the N.S.B. commission's findings will be taken into consideration," the science adviser said.

But knowledgeable observers suggested last week that the report may be more than a "useful reminder." They cite several of its components as important contributions to the debate on how to improve science, mathematics, and technology education.

Among the key points of the report, they suggest, are its inclusion of estimates of cost, its attention to the mechanisms—including levels of responsibility—needed to put the recommendations into effect, and its emphasis on elementary education.

In their official reactions, the two major teachers' organizations praised many recommendations in the report but reiterated their doubts about the use of differential salaries for science and math teachers.

Continued on Page 14

Use of Suspect Beef in Schools Is Alleged

By Susan Walton

An investigation by the Better Government Association—a Chicago-based citizens' group—and NBC-TV's "First Camera" has uncovered what the investigators allege is evidence that one of the major suppliers of frozen hamburger to the federal school-lunch program may be providing "diseased or contaminated" meat.

In a report presented on the Sept. 18 premiere of the newsmagazine-format program, the two groups charge that the Cattle King Packing Company, a Denver packing plant that in 1982-83 supplied 14 percent of the beef to the U. S. Agriculture Department (U.S.D.A.) for shipping to schools, has a long history of poor—and potentially dangerous—sanitation and inspection practices. The practices could allow contaminated meat or meat from diseased animals to be mixed in with untainted meat, the two groups charged in the 16-minute segment of the program.

The ground beef in question is purchased by the Agricultural Marketing Service, a division of the U.S.D.A.; distribution of the meat is handled by the Food and Nutrition Service, the U.S.D.A. division that administers the school-lunch program.

School Distribution

In the 1982-83 school year, the marketing division purchased 116 million pounds of bulk ground beef at a cost of about $127 million. About 95 percent of that was then distributed by the nutrition service to schools.

Citing the most recent statistics available, the investigators point out that the alleged hazards may affect even more schools

Continued on Page 14

THE WEEK

A SUMMARY OF NEWS AND EVENTS

IN SUMMARY

Mixed Results
After leveling off last year from a 17-year decline, S.A.T. mathematics scores rose this year; verbal scores declined. **Story on Page 5.**

Higher Standards in Michigan
A commission has recommended that the state board of education take "strong steps" to upgrade schools. **Story on Page 5.**

Correspondence Course by Computer
The former president of Atari is starting an "Electronic University" accessible to owners of personal computers. **Story on Page 8.**

A Helping Hand
Business and college leaders in Philadelphia have organized to support and help the public-school system. **Story on Page 9.**

Benefits for Motherhood
Wives of employees of the Los Angeles Unified School District have won the right to receive pregnancy benefits. **Story on Page 10.**

Less Action on the Labor Front
Fewer strikes are reported, but teachers are still without contracts in many districts, and Los Angeles faces a walkout. **Story on Page 10.**

A Crucial Vote
A number of Oregon districts may have to close schools if voters do not approve tax levies this week. **Story on Page 9.**

A Ruling in Chicago
An appeals court has upheld a decision freezing federal funds in a Chicago desegregation case. **Story on Page 11.**

A Full Plate
The Congress returns from summer recess to face spending bills and other controversial education measures. **Story on Page 12.**

Substantial Gains
A new study of Head Start confirms that disadvantaged children who participate do better than their peers who do not. **Story on Page 12.**

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NATIONAL

National Program To Improve Math Starts in 44 States

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell last week announced the start of a nationwide program to improve mathematics education through extensive coaching and competition.

The program, which is called "MATHCOUNTS," has been piloted over the last four years in public schools in Chicago and Birmingham, Ala.

The nationwide program—which officials said will involve about 500,000 7th- and 8th-grade students in 44 states and the District of Columbia this year—will conclude with a national competition in Washington, D. C., next May.

The program will be funded and operated by a coalition of business and government groups and run by local school officials and volunteers. Funds donated by the groups will be used for course materials and the cost of tournaments and travel.

In a letter to a MATHCOUNTS official, released at a press conference, President Reagan praised the program as "an excellent example of the private sector responding to a nationwide problem."

Edward A. Knapp, the executive director of the National Science Foundation, said mathematics coaching in the Chicago program resulted in a "renaissance" of mathematics in the inner-city schools. The number of Chicago schools that took part in a state mathematics competition jumped from one to 225 during four years of coaching, he said.

MATHCOUNTS will be sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Society of Professional Engineers, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the C.N.A. Insurance Companies.

FRAC Files Lawsuit Over Verification

The Food Research and Action Center has filed suit on behalf of four urban school boards and low-income families, challenging the U. S. Agriculture Department's interim regulations requiring the verification of income on applications for free or reduced-price federally funded school meals.

The public-interest group filed the suit in the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia on behalf of the New York, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Detroit school boards. The suit asks that the court issue a preliminary order blocking the regulation, and that the Secretary of Agriculture complete a study on the verification process and accept public comment on it before imposing the regulation.

Shanker Proposes Federal Scholarships For New Teachers

Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, has recommended establishing a federally-funded scholarship program as a method of luring more and brighter students into the teaching profession.

Students scoring in the top 25 percent on the Scholastic Aptitude Test or some comparable national test should receive free college tuition in return for at least five years of teaching, Mr. Shanker proposed in a speech last week at the National Press Club in Washington. The plan would cost about $7,000 per teacher, he estimated.

In its report last spring, the National Commission on Excellence in Education proposed offering some form of financial incentive to attract outstanding students to teaching.

In his address, which was broadcast over the National Public Radio network, Mr. Shanker denounced President Reagan's cuts in funding for Chapter 1 programs, pointing to a new union study that found that disadvantaged children in Detroit and Baltimore have suffered more from the cuts than have inner-city children in other major cities.

He also deplored Mr. Reagan's decision to make merit pay a major educational issue and labeled many such programs as no more than "gimmicks." However, Mr. Shanker said he now fully supports the master-teacher program being promoted by Gov. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee. "Teachers and educators ought to be willing—in exchange for financial help—to go half way."

The Top 20 Losing Cities
Actual 1982-83 Cuts in
Chapter 1

City	Actual Dollar Loss Per Person	Ranking
New York City	11.079	3
Chicago	10.694	4
Los Angeles	6.790	11
Philadelphia	10.179	5
Houston	5.069	16
Detroit	12.814	1
Dallas	6.589	12
San Diego	5.615	14
Phoenix	4.169	19
Baltimore	12.752	2
San Antonio	9.837	6
Indianapolis	4.179	18
San Francisco	4.635	17
Washington, D.C.	8.095	10
San Jose	4.157	20
Cleveland	9.219	9
Columbus	5.567	15
Boston	9.233	8
New Orleans	9.367	7
Jacksonville	8.533	13

The Top 20 Losing Cities
Actual 1982-83 Cuts in
Vocational/Adult Education

City	Actual Dollar Loss Per Person	Ranking
New York City	1.805	10
Chicago	1.933	9
Los Angeles	1.660	14
Philadelphia	2.159	4
Houston	1.506	16
Detroit	2.033	6
Dallas	1.502	17
San Diego	1.470	18
Phoenix	1.407	19
Baltimore	2.161	3
San Antonio	1.938	7
Indianapolis	1.674	13
San Francisco	1.605	15
Washington, D.C.	2.215	2
San Jose	1.380	20
Cleveland	2.464	1
Columbus	1.736	12
Boston	2.053	5
New Orleans	1.792	11
Jacksonville	1.917	9

Source: American Federation of Teachers

Americans Reading More, Despite New Technologies

Despite the rapid rise in computer use, television viewing, and video-game playing, and the increasing problem of illiteracy in the United States, Americans are reading as much as they ever have, according to a *New York Times* survey.

The survey, released earlier this month, was based on interviews with educators, publishers, and the newspaper's readers.

Figures from publishers support the finding. Book sales last year reached almost $8 billion, according to the Association of American Publishers, an increase of 4.4 percent, or $334.6 billion, over 1981 book sales.

Library use has also increased. In 1981, national circulation figures exceeded a billion for the first time, and in 1982, they reached 1.07 billion, according to a University of Illinois researcher.

Approximately 55,000 books are expected to roll off the presses this year, according to John P. Dessauer of the Center for Book Research at the University of Scranton. That figure represents a significant increase over past years: 40,000 books were produced in 1978, up from 11,000 in 1950.

The number of book publishers has increased by 10 percent a year in the last 10 to 15 years, according to Mr. Dessauer. There are approximately 21,000 publishers in the United States today, he said, with a rise in the number of small publishers accounting for most of the increase. In the early 1970's, the estimate was 6,000.

People are reading more to escape the realities of everyday life and because television does not provide consistently high-quality programming, speculated Robert Hale, associate executive director of the American Booksellers Association and member of the executive committee of the Library of Congress's Center for the Book.

But television may not always be the enemy of literacy, asserted Mr. Hale. Often, people see a program that spurs them to go to their bookstore or library to find a book that deals with the subject in greater depth, he pointed out.

In addition, people are developing